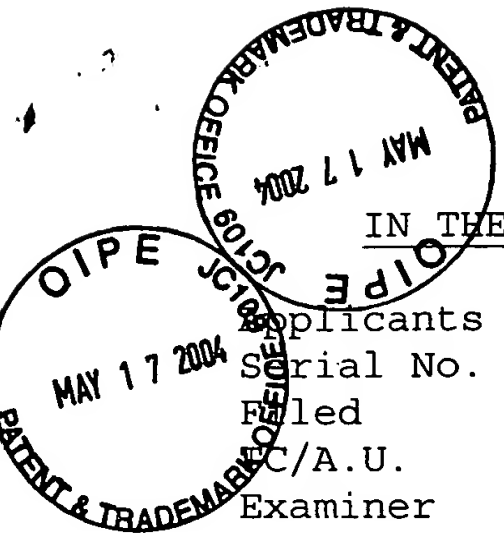


(73) tpu



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Frank Filser et al. Confirmation No.: 1826  
Serial No. : 09/623,268  
Filed : August 30, 2000  
C/A.U. : 1731  
Examiner : C. Fiorilla

Docket No. : 00-497  
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT

Sir:

In further response to the Office action dated January 2, 2004 please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the specification are reflected in the attached substitute specification with markings and the clean version.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 2 of this paper.